

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6929

BILL NUMBER: SB 134

DATE PREPARED: Dec 19, 2000

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Clerk's Responsibilities for Hunting and Fishing Licenses.

FISCAL ANALYST: Bernadette Bartlett

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FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that the clerk of the circuit court in each county may issue all hunting, trapping, and fishing licenses. (Current law requires the clerk to issue the licenses.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: The proposal provides that clerks “may” issue hunting, trapping, and fishing licenses instead of “shall” issue, as is current law. Currently, not all clerks have elected to provide licenses, and the proposal will make the law conform to current practice. However, some clerks who are currently issuing licenses may elect not to provide them if they are aware of the option. If the provision results in fewer clerks offering licenses, revenue collected for the licenses and used to fund operations of the Department of Natural Resources may decline. The impact is not expected to be significant because individuals interested in obtaining a license locally may be able to use other local agents, such as retail stores. The Department collects over \$15 M in license fee revenue annually.

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Some clerks who are currently issuing licenses may elect not to issue them. Not issuing licenses could reduce expenditures by a minimal amount.

Explanation of Local Revenues: Electing not to offer licenses could reduce the \$0.75 fee that clerks are granted for issuing each license.

State Agencies Affected: Department of Natural Resources

Local Agencies Affected: Clerk of the Circuit Court

Information Sources: